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CA PRESS GUIDANCE July 15, 1982

JOHN SULLIVAN, MISSING IN EL SALVADOR: AN UPDATE

Q. What are we doing to follow-up on the statement by Salvadoran guerrillas in Mexico that Sullivan was seen in a Salvadoran prison?

A. Consular officers in Mexico are attempting to obtain more information from the Salvadoran guerrillas who alleged that several months ago other prisoners had told them Sullivan was in jail in El Salvador. We have also asked officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross who visit Salvadoran prisons if they have seen any prisoner who meets Sullivan's description. American consular officers ~~have~~ visited Salvadoran prisons [illegible] ~~a variety of occasions in the past~~, but have never seen Sullivan or heard from other prisoners that he is being held. ~~Finally~~, Moreover, the American Embassy in San Salvador has repeatedly stressed U.S. Government concern in this case at the highest levels of the Salvadoran Government. Efforts to obtain any information which might lead to the discovery of Sullivan's whereabouts are continuing.

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